

REPORT OF NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 25th August 1883.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Fortnightly.				
1	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	653	6th August 1883.
2	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...	474	
3	"Tripurá Vártávaha"	Comillah ...	.....
4	"Prem Pracháriní"	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore.	.....
Weekly.				
5	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Calcutta ...	700	20th ditto.
6	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	150	17th ditto.
7	"Bangabási"	Ditto ...	8,500	11th ditto.
8	"Bártábaha"	Pubna ...	.....
9	"Bhárat Bandhu"	Calcutta ...	.....
10	"Bhárat Hitaishí"	Burrisal ...	450	10th ditto.
11	"Bhárat Mihir"	Mymensingh ...	713	
12	"Bardwán Sanjiváni"	Burdwan ...	282	14th ditto.
13	"Cháruvártá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	13th ditto.
14	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca ...	526	12th ditto.
15	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	745	17th ditto.
16	"Grámvártá Prakashiká"	Comercolly ...	267	18th ditto.
17	"Halisahar Prakashiká"	Calcutta ...	.....	11th ditto.
18	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	8th and 15th ditto.
19	"Játiya Suhrid"	Calcutta ...	700	
20	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore ...	418	
21	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....
22	"Navavibhakar"	Calcutta ...	850	20th ditto.
23	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	421	12th ditto.
24	"Prajá Bandhu"	Chandernagore ...	287	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI—concluded.				
Weekly.				
25	"Pratikār"	Berhampore ...	275	19th August 1883.
26	"Pratinidhi"	Calcutta ...	1,000	
27	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Beauleah ...	.....
28	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore ...	220	
29	"Sādhārānī"	Chinsurah ...	500	
30	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	
31	"Samaya"	Ditto ...	.....
32	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	.....
33	"Saraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	.....
34	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs. ...	.....
35	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Calcutta ...	3,000	9th ditto.
36	"Surabhi"	Deoghur ...	.....	12th ditto.
Daily.				
37	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Calcutta ...	250	15th ditto.
38	"Samvād Pūrnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	20th ditto.
39	"Samachār Chandrikā"	Ditto ...	625	11th ditto.
40	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto ...	500	11th & 16th to 20th ditto.
41	"Prabhāti"	Ditto ...	500	
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
Weekly.				
42	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	365	18th August 1883.
HINDI.				
Weekly.				
43	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	16th ditto.
44	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto ...	500	13th ditto.
45	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto ...	.....	18th ditto.
PERSIAN.				
Weekly.				
46	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Calcutta ...	250	17th ditto.
ASSAMESE.				
Monthly.				
47	"Assam Vilāsini"	Sibsagar ...	.....
URIYA.				
Weekly.				
48	"Utkal Dīpikā"	Cuttack ...	188	11th ditto.
49	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore ...	200	9th ditto.
50	"Balasore Samvad Vāhika"	Ditto ...	92	
51	"Purusottam Patrikā"	Pooree ...	330	
HINDI.				
Monthly.				
52	"Kshatriya Patrikā"	Patna ...	400	

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 8th August, condemns the anti-

HINDU RANJIKÁ.
August 8th, 1883.

The opium revenue and the anti-
opium agitation in England.

opium agitation in England on the ground of its unreasonableness. The Editor does not propose to discuss the question whether or

not the trade carried on by Government in opium is immoral. He firmly believes that the nation, which is earning vast wealth by selling English-made liquor in India, and which for its commercial spirit, is an object of ridicule with every European, will never, out of deference to an unreal religious feeling, willingly forego a principal source of the Indian revenue. The fixed revenue of the Indian Government, moreover, is so small, and its expenditure is so large and uncertain, that it cannot, even if it wished to do so, venture to give up this revenue raised from opium. There are, however, other circumstances which shew that the stability of the opium revenue cannot long be depended upon. Like other agricultural products, there is always an uncertainty as regards the outturn of opium in any particular year. It will again not be found practicable to continue the Government monopoly. Turkey, China, and other countries have begun the cultivation of the poppy, and they will probably be able to drive the costly Indian opium from the market. Government will have ultimately to give up the trade in opium. What will it do in that case to make good the loss of revenue? The only course that will be open to it will be to reduce the expenditure on the general administration by the substitution of cheap native, for the costly European, labour.

2. The same paper remarks that, just as the Romans in their pride of

HINDU RANJIKÁ.

The British Government and the
people of India.

conquest failed to treat the conquered nations as their equals, the British nation is at the present time refusing to regard the natives of

India as the equals of Englishmen. It is to be regretted that, though India has been under British rule for upwards of a century, the English have not yet learnt to look upon natives as their friends, nor to make India a part of England. The Ilbert Bill is a small measure, and yet it has caused a fearful outbreak of race antagonism. That native Magistrates are not allowed to try Europeans constitutes a dark blot on British statesmanship, British legislation, and British rule. Again, the proposal to grant a little Local Self-Government to the people of India has caused a strong agitation, the local authorities being opposed to this proposal. The Editor exhorts the British nation to regard natives of India in the same light in which they regard the people of Ireland and Scotland, and grant them the same rights and privileges that are enjoyed by Englishmen.

3. The same paper continues its observations on the Bengal Tenancy

HINDU RANJIKÁ.

The Bengal Tenancy Bill. The occu-
pancy right.

Bill. The Editor considers it exceedingly desirable that the occupancy ryots should be able to mortgage their holdings to some extent.

Considering the frequent recurrence of famines in this country, and the legal obligation which zemindars are under of paying the Government revenue on fixed days, ryots are often obliged to borrow money. Consequently it is necessary that they should be able to mortgage their holdings. But care should be taken to guard against an abuse of this power on their part—an abuse which in Southern India, in the North-Western Provinces, and in Egypt has made the ryots slaves of the money-lenders. The Editor therefore suggests that occupancy ryots should be given the privilege of creating only usufructuary mortgages on their holdings. The proposal to grant occupancy tenants the power of sub-letting their holdings is strongly deprecated. If the proposal were adopted, the object aimed at by the Bill would be frustrated, inasmuch as, without benefiting in

the least the actual cultivators of the soil, it would create a class of middlemen, and thus weaken the zemindars. The framer of the Bill is well aware of this, and says that, if ever things should come to this pass, the Government of the day would know how to deal with it. This is not good statesmanship. Prevention is better than cure. The Editor fully approves of section 57 of the Bill.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
August 9th, 1883.

4. The *Rungpore Dik Prakásh*, of the 9th August, contains an article headed "Good news." The Editor observes that Anglo-Indians have now been humbled in the dust, and all their brag and bluster are now about to become powerless. They will have now to prostrate themselves before Lord Ripon, the gentle and liberal ruler, whom they had causelessly abused, and to send whom out of India they had recourse to so much intrigue. Lord Kimberley's reply to the deputation which waited upon him on the subject of the Ilbert Bill has given assurance to the people of India. There were doubts as to the reception that would be given to the Ilbert Bill in England, but after the liberal views expressed by the Secretary of State, there need not be any longer any fears regarding the safety of that measure. The just public measures adopted by Lord Ripon will doubtless receive Divine countenance. Let the people of India be now comforted; let them proclaim the success of Lord Ripon, and let there be rejoicings in the land. Let the people of India learn to respect with their whole heart that god-like and noble-minded Lord Ripon, through whose exertions alone the proclamation of the Empress of India is about to be given effect to, and who, instead of governing the people of this country with brute force, is labouring to bind them all in moral ties.

5. The same paper observes that there can be no doubt that much good will accrue from the establishment of appellate benches in the mofussil. The public will very probably be spared the delay and expense which are now incurred in appeal cases in the High Court. If, again, the establishment of these benches really has the effect of lightening the labours of the High Court, the Judges of that Court will have more time to consider the facts of the cases which may be brought before them, and thus the ends of justice will be better served than at present. For all these reasons the establishment of the benches in question is exceedingly desirable.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH.

Appellate benches.

6. We extract the following observations from an article in the *Bhárat Hitaishí*, of the 10th August, headed "A war of words":—Since the appointment of Baboo Romesh Chandra Mitter to officiate as Chief Justice, a war of words has raged between Europeans and Eurasians, on the one hand, and natives of India on the other. The English have come to this country as a free people; their arms and ammunition are lying in heaps in different parts of it; they have numberless troops; the natives—the Maharattas, the Sikhs, and the Rajpoots—are ready to lay down their lives for the protection of the honour and property of Englishmen; the Eurasians follow their leading. What are, then, the English in want of? Why should they then be on the side of Bengalis? What is it to them if Bengalis are overtaken by any misfortune? They are, therefore, with a *nonchalant* air opposing every measure which may benefit the country, and making speeches and indulging in abusive language. Could a sense of the great benefit which the people of India conferred upon the English at the time of the battle of Plassey live so long in their memory? Would they still admit the fact that Clive, the ornament of the English race, and the cause of the acquisition of the Indian Empire, prostrated himself hundreds of times before Rajballabh and Krista Chandra? Would they still admit that, but for the pecuniary assistance granted by the

BHARAT HITAIISHI,
August 10th, 1883.

Anglo-Indians and Natives.

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Setts, English soldiers would have simply starved? They are now free, and have grown rich with the wealth of India. There was a time when Clive found it necessary to appease his hunger by eating the parched rice and molasses given him by Kánta Mudi; but Norris, Garth, Branson, and others do not even touch such food! Why should, then, any thought of benefiting Bengalis arise in their minds? Their object now is that European merchants should be able, like leeches, to suck dry the life-blood of the people of India. What is it to them if India is turned into another Sahara desert, or if her population is decimated by plagues? The natives of India are a subject people, and have lost everything they had. Being skeletons, they cannot indulge in high words; nor has the time come when they should do so. The Koh-i-noor of Runjit Sinha, the Lion of the Punjab, and the Peacock throne of Shah Jehan are now in London, where they enhance the splendours of that city. The profits of agriculture, manufacture, and commerce are now going to England. If the supply of British piece-goods ceases, the people will have no cloths to wear. What is there now left in India which the people can call their own? Everything now belongs to another. To be able to use firearms for the defence of life, honour, and property would require the permission of Europeans; to be able to open a shop would require permission, which could only be given after the payment of a tax; to be able to see the Bo-tree in Allahabad would require permission. The Editor concludes his article with the following observations:—The imprisonment of Surendra Nath furnished an opportunity to intriguing Englishmen to plant obstacles in the way of the advancement of Bengalis. They have partially succeeded in this. But those that feel a pleasure in acting in this manner are not worthy to be called men. They are curs, born in the family of the noble English Lion, to put to shame the great men of the English race. The injustice done by a Judge in a Court of Justice bespeaks as much meanness as blasphemy in the mouth of a godly person, or robbery on the part of a liberal-hearted person. Messrs. Garth, Norris, and others have, by their unseemly conduct, done more injury to their reputation for liberality than the injury which Bengalis have sustained by the imprisonment of Surendra Nath. The hungry lion does not kill small animals, but the pig devours even ordure and worms. Conduct is the true index of good and bad dispositions. Liberal-minded personages will not strike the axe at the breast of India in consequence of the vain outcries of Feringhees and Anglo-Indians.

7. The *Halisahar Prakáshiká*, of the 11th August, observes that, in view of the attitude of Anglo-Indians at the present time, and the strong agitation

A national fund.

which is being made by natives and Anglo-Indians over important political questions, it is exceedingly desirable to create a national fund. The Editor exhorts all natives of India to come forward to help this fund.

HALISAHAR
PRAKASHIKA,
August 11th, 1883.

8. The *Sanjivani*, of the 11th August, makes the following observations in an editorial paragraph:—We are glad to hear that a model farm, with a capital of Rs. 6,000 has been established in Gopalpore, in the Hooghly district. The peasantry will here be taught the use of the English plough and other agricultural implements. When will educated men in our country realize the hardship of service and, betaking themselves to independent professions, increase the number of liberty-loving men?

SANJIVANI,
August 11th, 1883.

9. The same paper thus refers to Sir E. Baring's approaching departure:—Sir Evelyn Baring is about to leave this country. By making a reduction

Sir E. Baring.

of the salt duties, by advocating the Ilbert Bill and the Bengal Tenancy Bill, and by offering encouragement to native arts and manufactures, he has become entitled to our gratitude. He loved India, and it is

SANJIVANI.

owing to this good quality that all India is sorry to hear of his approaching departure. The Punjab and Bombay are making preparations to show him their gratitude. It would not become Bengal to remain silent at this time.

SANJIVANI,
August 11th, 1883.

10. The following is taken from an editorial paragraph in the same paper:—In the course of his reply to the address presented to him by the Municipal Commissioners of Hooghly, the Lieutenant-Governor expressed his great regret at the differences which had for the last few months arisen between natives and Europeans. It was difficult to say, remarked His Honour, whether Europeans or natives had begun those differences. The Ilbert Bill, he observed, was a small matter, and that, if it was passed into law, only two native civilians would be given powers to try Europeans; while, on the other hand, a large number of persons would have their susceptibilities really offended. Mr. Thompson, has not been able to regain his mental balance. Unless one was perfectly blind and partial, one could easily determine who it was that first began the present quarrel. The quarrel did not begin until race animosities had been kindled in the Town Hall; until Mr. Thompson's follower, the Calcutta correspondent of the *Times*, had sent those hostile telegrams to England; and until the *Englishman*, the organ of a large number of Anglo-Indians, had disseminated a spirit of hostility on all sides; and yet Mr. Thompson says with unabashed face that it is difficult to say whether natives or Europeans began the quarrel. Bravo! Such impartiality will perpetuate his memory in Bengal. Nothing is to be more regretted than that Mr. Thompson, who is the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, is not able to comprehend the fundamental principles of the Ilbert Bill. We do not care whether or not two persons will receive the benefit of the Bill, nor do we know whether or not, in seeking to do justice, the false pride of Englishmen will be offended. The object of the Bill is to remove the distinction of race, and the inequality which lie at the root of the Indian administration, and to put a stop to all wrong by keeping an eye to true statesmanship. The question is one of justice or injustice; of redeeming or of violating a pledge. Will you oppose an extension of the kingdom of justice fearing lest injustice should suffer, and will set at naught the pledge given by the Queen? We hope the Lieutenant-Governor will not again use such idle words.

SANJIVANI.

11. The same paper makes the following observations in another editorial paragraph:—That the mehter who assaulted Mrs. Hume was really guilty does not admit of any doubt. It is not, however, so easy to determine the true nature of his crime. If the mehter had any counsel to defend him, a cross-examination of the witnesses for the prosecution would probably have thrown some light on this point. When we read a detailed account of this occurrence, the question arose in our minds, that when the mehter was trying to open the door of the bathroom from outside by thrusting his hand into it, why did not Mrs. Hume then shut the door against him from inside? Why did she give him an opportunity of entering the room? How did she, after he had entered the room, speak to him in her naked state? These points are all unintelligible to us. To prevent her from crying out, the mehter might have stopped her mouth with his hands, but instead of doing that he struck her in the face, and thus gave her an opportunity of crying out still more loudly. All this it is not easy to comprehend. Another point is this: Mrs. Hume could not say why the mehter had been dismissed, because she had nothing to do with the menial servants; and yet it does not appear that her husband either had this work allotted to him, because he could not even remember that the mehter had ever been in his service. Thus it is not clear who had dismissed the mehter. Mrs. Hume had nothing

to do with the appointment or dismissal of menial servants, and yet the mehter had come to her for a certificate. This question also is one which is difficult to solve. The period for which the mehter was in the service of Mr. Hume, the reason of his dismissal—all these matters ought to have been gone into. As it is, it is impossible to determine the degree of the mehter's guilt.

12. The same paper calls upon the native community to strengthen the hands of Government in the matter of the Bengal Tenancy Bill. The zemindars, who are wealthy and influential, are strongly opposing the measure, but there is nobody to put in a favourable word for the ignorant and poverty-stricken ryots. Fortunately Government is resolved upon redressing their grievances, and it would be sinful to attempt to oppose it in this matter. The Bengal Tenancy Bill should not be put off for fear of an unholy alliance between the zemindars and the opponents of the Native Jurisdiction Bill. The former measure has now been for four years before the public, and has received the benefit of a searching examination. Lord Ripon is a friend of the poor, and is eminently fitted to legislate on behalf of the Bengal tenantry. If the present opportunity is lost, the miseries of the Bengal ryot will not end.

SANJIVANI,
August 11th, 1883.

13. The *Bangabási*, of the 11th August, notices with regret that the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council has rejected the appeal of Surendra Nath Banerji.

Surendra Nath's appeal.

The question has no reference to the imprisonment of Surendra Nath. He has been already released. It has reference to the future of India. What evil consequence may not result if all High Courts exercise the Imperial powers which have been exercised by the Calcutta High Court? Considering that even in England, which is governed by Parliament and public opinion, the exercise of such powers by the Court is not desirable, it is needless to say how dangerous it is that any Court in India—the sporting ground of Englishmen, and the chief market of English selfishness—should possess such ample powers.

BANGABASI,
August 11th, 1883.

14. The same paper takes a desponding view of the future of the Bengal ryots. Government, indeed, has, after protracted discussions and deliberations, initiated legislation on their behalf, but its conduct towards the ryots of khas mehals is one which is far from encouraging. The attitude of the zemindars is, as might be expected, hostile. The educated natives, who have so long shown so much concern for ryots, are now apathetic. The *Statesman*, the leading newspaper in Bengal, which has hitherto advocated the cause of the ryot, is now gradually changing sides. All this is disheartening. The Editor beseeches Government, if it really desires to save the ryots, to pass the Bengal Tenancy Bill into law without further delay.

BANGABASI.

15. The same paper dwells upon the necessity that has arisen of establishing a national fund to carry on political agitation in a persistent and constitutional manner. The Editor observes that the promoters of the fund should not aim at accomplishing many things at once, but should devote their whole energy to the attainment of one object at a time. They should first endeavour to carry on agitation in England by starting a newspaper in that country.

BANGABASI.

16. The *Sádháraní*, of the 12th August, remarks that the Lieutenant-Governor's reply to the address presented him by the Municipal Commissioners of Hooghly shows that His Honour is not indifferent to the progress of the people, and that he is willing to introduce Local Self-Government to some extent. His reply further shows that he is strongly attached to the European traders in this country; that he does not always remember their faults; and that he is extremely unwilling to wound their susceptibilities. He says that

SADHARANI,
August 12th, 1883.

Mr. Thompson on the Ilbert Bill.

he deploras the differences that have arisen between natives and Europeans in this country, but that it is difficult to say what party first caused those differences. It is for this that people say that the Lieutenant-Governor does not always remember the faults of Europeans. Everybody knows that it was the Europeans who first excited race antagonism by needlessly abusing Bengalis at a meeting, in Calcutta, held to protest against the Ilbert Bill. His Honour says that the Ilbert Bill is a small measure, and that, if it passes, only two natives will obtain jurisdiction over Europeans; while, on the other hand, the susceptibilities of a large class (European traders) will be offended. His Honour may have honestly formed this opinion and honestly expressed it, but it does not seem to be based on good grounds. Possibly, if the Bill becomes law, only two native civilians will be vested with criminal jurisdiction over Europeans. But this will be no small gain to natives. They will thus have a just right established, which will act as an incentive to good work on the part of native Magistrates. The Bill, if it is passed, will remove the invidious distinction of race which now exists between native and European Magistrates, and will give effect to the assurances repeatedly given by Parliament and the Queen, that as regards appointment to the public service, no distinction of creed or colour shall be made.

SADHARANI,
August 12th, 1883.

17. The same paper remarks that the promoters of the national fund should first of all endeavour to start a newspaper in England for the purpose of keeping the English public acquainted with the progress of events and with native opinion in India.

DACCA PRAKASH,
August 12th, 1883.

18. The *Dacca Prakāsh*, of the 12th August, contains an article on the increase in the cost of litigation that has taken place of late years. This is gradually making justice more and more inaccessible to the poor. The stamp fees, as well as fees of pleaders, have been enhanced.

CHARU VARTA,
August 13th, 1883.

19. The *Charu Vartā*, of the 13th August, contains an article headed "What have we learnt from this agitation?" The Editor thus summarises what he considers the lessons which the people of India have learnt from the agitation over the Ilbert Bill:—(1) The Ilbert Bill has taught them the alphabet of political agitation. (2) They have now found out Anglo-Indians, whom they had so long looked upon as friends. The people now find that the interests of Anglo-Indians are opposed to their interests, and that these men are for always governing them by brute force. (3) It has taught them the value of firm determination and energetic action. Anglo-Indians have within two months raised more than two lakhs of rupees. (4) It has taught them the value of united and sustained agitation. (5) It has taught them the meaning of the expression "British-born subject." (6) It has taught them that the unification of the races in India, though it is a difficult, is not nevertheless an impracticable task. (7) It has taught them that if any agitation is to be made against Government, it should be made in England. (8) It has taught them that the educated classes in England are not now, as formerly, ignorant of, and indifferent to, Indian affairs. It is no longer possible to throw dust into the eyes of the English people. (9) It has taught them that Englishmen in England and Englishmen in India are not one and the same: that those who bluster so much in India do not receive any countenance from Englishmen who belong to high circles in England. (10) It has taught them that the reign of justice in this world has not yet come to an end.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI
August 14th, 1883.

20. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 14th August, derides those Anglo-Indian editors who, in their eagerness to oppose the Ilbert Bill, do not even shrink from

Alleged assaults upon Europeans.

casting a stain on the honour of European females. They have now begun to describe the much-abused Bengalis as a courageous people. The reason, however, of their giving publicity to cases of indecent assault upon European females is well-known to everybody. They are anxious to make it known in England that anarchy now prevails in India, and that therefore the Ilbert Bill should not be passed into law. By giving publicity to these cases they are wounding the feelings of many persons. The Editor does not know much about European society: all that he can say is that, if the lady in Mr. Norris' house, about the assault on whom so much has been written in the papers, had been a native, she would have by this time resolved upon putting an end to her life by hanging herself.

21. The same paper makes the following observations in an article headed "District Appellate Benches":—The

BURDWAN SANJIVANI
August 14th, 1883.

Appellate benches. scheme of appellate benches, indicated in the despatch of the Secretary of State, does not appear to be marked by much simplicity. The expression "second appeal" is used in certain places in the course of this despatch, thus leading to the supposition that the first appeal will have to be made to the bench, and the second appeal to the High Court. Again, the benches that are to be established are sometimes called intermediate courts, whose business it will be to lighten the files of the High Court. Another point is that, while the pay of the civilian Judge is fixed, nothing whatever has been said regarding the pay of the native Judge. Another remark that is to be made in this connection is that it is doubtful whether the number of appeals to the High Court will be reduced by the establishment of these benches. No appeals against the decision of the appellate bench in suits of less than Rs. 500 in value will lie to the High Court, except when the Judges constituting a bench disagree. Now, this provision leaves room for the preferring of appeals to the High Court. Nothing, again, has been said regarding appeals in rent suits and in Small Cause Court suits. Lastly, great hardship will be caused to suitors if no provision is made for preferring appeals to the District Court. The Editor, however, concludes by expressing a hope that a law relating to appellate benches will shortly be passed by the Indian Legislative Council.

22. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 15th August, asks the Legislature to so amend section 497 of the Indian Penal Code that in a case of adultery the unfaithful wife, equally with her paramour, may be visited with punishment. As it is, the law does not provide for any punishment for an unfaithful wife. This is repugnant to Hindu and Mahomedan notions alike.

HINDU RANJIKI,
August 15th, 1883.

23. The same paper contains an article headed "District Appellate Benches." The observations made by the writer are similar to those noticed in paragraph 53 of the report of the 11th August 1883. The Editor suggests that the bench for Moorshedabad should be established in Rajshahye, which occupies a very convenient position.

HINDU RANJIKI.

24. The following observations are extracted from an article in the *Sahachar*, of the 15th August, headed "The Ilbert Bill and Anglo-Indians." the "Last peril of the Ilbert Bill":—In England the opponents of the Ilbert Bill have not been successful. They brought together certain old Anglo-Indians, utterly ignorant of the present condition of India, who had long been enjoying Indian pensions, and whose minds were full of old prejudices, and made them deliver some speeches abounding in old, stock arguments. It was a packed meeting of the opponents of the Bill at which the speeches were delivered. Another meeting, held under the presidency of Mr. Stanhope, the late Under-Secretary of State for India, was equally unsuccessful. The result of all this is that

SAHACHAR,
August 15th, 1883.

the Ministry and the Liberal party will approve of the Governor-General's policy. But there is yet another difficulty to encounter. The articles in the *Englishman* on the subject of assaults upon European females show that the opponents of the Ilbert Bill—at least not an inconsiderable portion of them—will leave no stone unturned in order to incite their fellow-countrymen. They are but doing what is done in similar cases. A few persons raise an outcry, and the rest thoughtlessly, and like a flock of sheep, follow their direction. Bengalis are being attacked, though nobody seems to consider if these attacks are justifiable. Because Mr. Keswick and others, and the *Englishman*, the *Pioneer*, and the *Daily News* and other journals have abused, and are still abusing, Bengalis, therefore they are to abuse Bengalis. European boys and girls are being taught the libellous song "Bengali Baboo," composed by that low buffoon Dave Carson. Respectable Europeans do not indeed publicly call natives "niggers," but common Feringhees have again begun to do this. It is but natural that European civilans should seek to keep natives at a great distance from the Civil Service. It is no wonder, therefore, that in consequence of the opposition they have raised, and for fear of incurring their displeasure, certain native officers and independent native gentlemen also have expressed themselves against the Ilbert Bill. Such unanimity among the officials must be inevitable, considering that ladies are going about making requests. The spectacle, however, is not edifying. Anglo-Indians would treat natives just as the Turks have always treated the races subject to them. On the occasion of such disputes the privileged classes have in all countries raised a storm of opposition : of course, they have had to yield in the end. The public should know that every endeavour has been, and is being, made for gaining over the members of the Legislative Council to the side of the opposition. The Indian officials have never been famous for liberality and independence. Those that under Lord Lytton's rule had expressed their partiality for the despotism of Europe, assumed for some time an opposite attitude under the present administration ; but now, finding that their countrymen have raised a storm of opposition, they will naturally join it. In 1872 the Governor-General and some others, indeed, endeavoured to increase the powers of native Magistrates, but failed owing to the opposition of Sir James Stephen, who had secured a numerical majority in the Council in his favour. It is thus clear that the true dispute is confined to the Legislative Council itself. The Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, it is said, is wavering in his decision owing to the requests of Anglo-Indians. The Commander-in-Chief, and at least two other members, have changed their minds to a considerable extent. Of course it cannot be expected that any change will come over the views of Rajah Siva Prasad. If the Bill be approved of by a majority of the members of the Legislative Council, it will be free from all danger in England.

In the meantime it behoves the people of this country to show patience. The other day Mr. Keswick expressed himself with some moderation. Many Europeans say that they would not much object to the Ilbert Bill, were it not for the fact that native newspapers regard the measure as a small beginning, and that they expect greater concessions to be made to them ere long. Now, though this is not wholly true, yet native newspapers should not furnish the opponents of the Bill with an opportunity of saying such things. The people of India will have to be content for some time with what the Bill gives them. Twenty-five or thirty years are nothing as compared with the whole period of a nation's existence.

SANACHAR,
August 16th, 1883.

25. The same paper makes the following observations on the decision of the Privy Council in the case of Surendra Nath Banerjee :—It is needless to

Surendra Nath's appeal.

say that the people of India have been stupified and disappointed at reading the decision of the Privy Council in this case. Many were convinced that the High Court had no jurisdiction in the case, and they therefore expected that the appellant would be successful. But now it is found that the powers of the High Court are almost unbounded. Whether that Court should possess such powers will be considered on another occasion. The people have the greatest confidence in the impartiality of the High Court Judges, to whom they look for protection against all wrong and injustice. It therefore behoves the Judges to reflect on the great responsibilities of their office.

26. The *Pratinidhi*, of the 16th August, observes that, if the object of Mr. Thompson's present river tour be to

Mr. Thompson's river tour.

remove the uneasiness which has been produced in the public mind by the agitation over the Ilbert Bill, as well as to ascertain public opinion on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, then it may be confidently predicted that His Honour will be successful in neither. The masses have learnt their rights, and cannot now be imposed on by words. It cannot, therefore, be believed that the Lieutenant-Governor will be able to stem the current of public opinion. If, again, it be his desire to ascertain the relations that exist between landlords and tenants, that desire will not be gratified by dining at Baboo Joy Krishna Mukerji's or conversing with Baboo Surendra Nath Pal Chowdhuri. On the contrary, there will be a fear that he may become partial to them after eating their salt.

27. The *Sansodhini*, of the 6th August, is glad to hear that the Lieutenant-Governor has decided upon appointing a Commission to enquire into the

The outstill system.

working of the outstill system.

28. We take the following from the same paper:—We have already given a full account of Asruf Bibi's case.

Asruf Bibi's case.

The Lieutenant-Governor has recently given his decision in that case. We have repeatedly said that there can be no doubt that the Commissioner, the Collector, the Manager of the Court of Wards, and other officers in Chittagong acted in this case with the best motives. We are glad to see the Lieutenant-Governor also has expressed this opinion and pronounced the officers concerned innocent.

Asruf Bibi says that the Manager forged a letter. After a careful examination of all the papers in this case the Lieutenant-Governor says that the letter in question was not a forged letter. It was hinted by Asruf Bibi's party that the Manager and his amlah had abstracted a portion of the money found in the house of Asruf Bibi. This point ought to have been carefully decided for the benefit of the public. Although many know that it was impossible for the Manager and his amlah to have done any such thing, and although Asruf Bibi's Counsel withdrew the charge of abstracting money, and although, further, Mr. Badcock showed that the charge was false, still, for the benefit of the public, it would have been well if the Lieutenant-Governor had discussed at length this point in his Resolution, because this was the principal charge, and because to investigate this a special Commission was appointed. In the Resolution the actions of the prosecution have not been criticised in the manner in which the conduct of the local officials has been discussed. If this had been done, the public would have been enabled to see the merits and demerits of the respective parties.

In this connection the conduct of not a few editors has caused us much surprise. No one living in any distant part of the country can ever know as much about the condition of Chittagong as we do. Being on the spot, we know that the Commissioner, the Collector, the Manager, and his subordinates have done their respective duties with the best of motives, but that, owing to a little want of care on their part, there has been shown in certain matters a

PRATINIDHI,
August 16th, 1883.

SANSODHINI,
August 6th, 1883.

SANSODHINI.

little unkindness. It is no wonder that such should be the case with every man. Is it therefore just to overlook the good qualities of the Commissioner, the Collector, and the Manager, and to hang them and impale them? If everything had been published, the public would have seen that there were various intrigues to prevent the transfer of this estate to the management of the Court of Wards; and it is because the Manager, the Collector, and the Commissioner laboured to baffle these intrigues, that they incurred so much unpopularity. On the other hand, if they had not duly put forth efforts for the protection of this property, and if, owing to their fault, it had been plundered, they would have been equally blamed.

SANSODHINI,
August 6th, 1883.

29. The same paper, while it sympathises with the object of the promoters of the national fund, is yet of opinion that they should proceed slowly and with caution, and not aim at accomplishing mighty changes all at once.

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
August 18th, 1883.

30. A correspondent of the *Sulabha Samáchar*, of the 18th August, complains that railway clerks show more consideration to Europeans and Eurasians than to native passengers, and mentions a case in which similar want of consideration to a native passenger was shown at the Howrah station.

Railway clerks.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
August 18th, 1883.

31. The *Grámvártá Prakáshiká*, of the 18th August, complains that the opponents of the Ilbert Bill are abusing natives without any reason, both in India and England. Surely it is time that the authorities devised a remedy for this state of things.

The Ilbert Bill.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

32. The same paper notices with regret that at Hooghly Mr. Thompson spoke of the Ilbert Bill as a small measure, which would benefit only two natives. But even this benefit is not small. The Queen's proclamation will be by this measure given effect to, while people will be given a right which lawfully belongs to them. It is exceedingly to be regretted that the Lieutenant-Governor does not see the beneficial character of the Ilbert Bill.

Mr. Thompson on the Ilbert Bill.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
August 20th, 1883.

33. The *Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 20th August, thanks Lord Ripon for his Resolution on the shooting excursions of European soldiers. The observations are similar to those noticed in paragraph 28 of our last report.

Resolution on the shooting excursions of European soldiers.

SAMVAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
August 11th, 1883.

34. The *Samvad Purnachandrodaya*, of the 11th August, observes that the confidence reposed by the people of Bengal in Mr. Thompson has diminished

Mr. Thompson.

since it became first known in Krishnaghur that His Honour was in a large measure influenced by officers subordinate to him. He will see during his tour that the reception that will be accorded to him in different places will lack that heartiness which characterized his reception last year. But are Bengalis to blame for this? Is he still acting in that just and noble manner in which he acted when he first came to Bengal? It behoves His Honour to act independently.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
August 17th, 1883.

35. The *Samvád Prabhákar*, of the 17th August last, thus refers to Lord Kimberley's reply to the Anglo-Indian deputation:—Lord Kimberley has replied to the prayer of the Anglo-Indian deputation as a good Liberal should reply. The people of India heartily thank him for this. The deputation adduced unsound, erroneous, and untruthful arguments against the Ilbert Bill.

Lord Kimberley's reply.

SAMVAD
PRABHAKAR,
August 21st, 1883.

36. The same paper, of the 21st August, reproduces with approval the observations made in a recent number of the *Statesman* regarding the desirability of converting the Indian debt into a sterling loan, and of asking Parliament to guarantee it.

The Indian debt.

37. We extract the following observations from an article in the *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 20th August, headed "Action leads to re-action":—The agitation over the Jurisdiction Bill has proved very beneficial. Action leads to re-action. In a country where the sovereign rules with rigour, the subjects benefit in the long run, if they have but a spark of vitality left in them. The peasantry in this country were formerly in a very deplorable condition. They did not know that it was possible to obtain any redress of oppression which might be committed upon them by the zemindar or any other powerful party. But, then, formerly the zemindar ruled them just as the head of a family rules its members. He punished them, but he also loved them. He sucked dry their resources, but he also rendered them pecuniary help. But the indigo-planters began to oppress the peasantry in a fearful manner. This oppression gradually became unendurable. Re-action now set in. The peasantry courageously stood up against their oppressors. Ever since this re-action set in the peasantry have begun to acquire a status.

Europeans in this country extremely dislike natives. Many of the natives know this. But as Europeans are members of the ruling race, and as this country has to depend for many of its temporal advantages upon them, the people of India acted as if they did not know this. It was because they knew this that natives of an independent disposition never went on a visit to any European. Independent and yet selfish natives hit on a compromise and mixed with Europeans. Many again cast to the winds all sense of shame, modesty, propriety, and pride, and began to adore the feet of Europeans. Business between natives and Europeans in this country has been hitherto somehow conducted in this manner. The Europeans stood upon their pride, and natives, as far as possible, maintained their honour. But, thanks to the Jurisdiction Bill, Europeans have thrown off the veil which had hitherto concealed their thoughts. They have now begun to show publicly by their conduct that they desire to wound the feelings of natives, to injure them, and to destroy their hopes and aspirations. This has gradually become unendurable. Re-action, it seems, is about to set in. It is clear that by their conduct Anglo-Indians are being discredited, not only in this country, but in England also. A powerful agitation is being made in England over the Jurisdiction Bill, with this result that the opponents of the measure are being gradually discredited. In England the Liberal party is now in power, and every Liberal, it appears, is a supporter of the Jurisdiction Bill and of Lord Ripon's policy.

It has been repeatedly remarked in this journal that the Bill will not for the present confer any signal benefit upon the people of India, and that Mr. Ilbert would have done more good to them if he had, instead of introducing the Jurisdiction Bill, undertaken the amendment of many other objectionable provisions of the criminal law. But considering that the Jurisdiction Bill has raised the question of the Queen's proclamation, and that if the Bill is not passed, that proclamation will be set at naught, the Bill does not appear a small measure.

38. Referring to the decision of the Allahabad High Court in Mr. Stapleton's case, and to that of the Sessions Judge of Agra in the same case, the same paper makes the following observations:—Mr. Hewett fired at a person. Fortunately the man did not die, but was only wounded. In this case the Magistrate of Rutnaghiri allowed the case to be compounded by the defendant paying the sum of Rs. 200 to the plaintiff. In Mr. Stapleton's case, again, the Judge of Agra awarded to the plaintiff—a native woman, who had been beaten like a beast by a European—damages to the extent of Rs. 50. It is probable that Anglo-Indians are protesting against the

Jurisdiction Bill through fear lest there should be an end of such justice. Fortunately such judges cannot always do injustice with impunity. If the injustice done by judges had not occasionally been taken notice of by superior authorities, and sought to be remedied, one cannot even think of the fearful pass to which the country would have come.

AWANDA BAHAR
PATRIKA,
August 20th, 1883.

39. Referring to the reply given by the Secretary of State to the Lord Kimberley on the Ilbert Anglo-Indian deputation which recently waited upon him on the subject of the Ilbert Bill, the same paper remarks that Lord Kimberley gave a proper reply to the statement which, it appears, had been made by Sir A. Arbuthnot, to the effect that the Bill should not be passed into law, inasmuch as two or three natives of India had recently acted in a brutal manner. It is to be wondered at that the opponents of the Bill put forward against the measure such an argument as the above. If that argument were allowed to have any force, and natives of India were in consequence declared unfit for any superior judicial office, there would not probably be any justification for appointing even a single European to any public office in India.

SAMAYA,
August 20th, 1883.

40. The *Samaya*, of the 20th August, asks, in reference to the rumour that the Maharajah of Cooch Behar will shortly be made a Major in the Bengal Army, what is the good of giving hollow titles? The ends of justice and righteousness will be promoted if natives are really made Majors, Colonels, and Lieutenants, instead of being given only paper titles, which have ceased to have any value.

SAMAYA.

41. The same paper remarks, in reference to the reply given by the Lord Kimberley on the Ilbert Secretary of State to the Anglo-Indian deputation on the Ilbert Bill, that in England Anglo-Indians have now had all their hopes blasted. They have therefore resolved to petition the Viceroy. Their petition to Parliament has proved unsuccessful. They are now trying to secure a majority in the Legislative Council against the Bill. If the Government of India be careful in time, the tactics of Anglo-Indians will not bear any fruit.

SAMAYA.

42. The same paper is glad to notice that Mr. A. G. Chuckerbutty, the son of the late Dr. Goodeve Chuckerbutty stands first on the list of successful candidates for admission into the Royal Military Academy. This shows that the Bengali is not in the least inferior to the Englishman in intelligence.

SURABHI,
August 20th, 1883.

43. The *Surabhi*, of the 20th August, remarks that it is clear that the Ilbert Bill will be passed into law with modifications, leaving intact the principle underlying the measure, namely, that in the matter of trying European offenders there will be no distinction made as regards the race of the Judge. Although a compromise will satisfy neither party, still the victory will be with natives. The compromise, if it is agreed to, will leave room for the expectation that in time the subordinate native judicial officers will be vested with criminal jurisdiction over Europeans.

SURABHI.

44. Referring to the decision of the Privy Council in the case of Surendra Nath Banerji, the same paper observes that, if the High Court really possess summary jurisdiction in contempt cases, the liberty of the press will be placed in jeopardy. The Editor hopes that the subject will be agitated by the native public.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
August 20th, 1883.

45. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 20th August, contains an article headed "A patriarchal Government." The Editor observes that the relations between Government and the people of this country have always been similar to those

which subsist between a parent and a child. In infancy and boyhood the father exercises a strict, though loving, control over the son, but allows him independence of action when the latter has attained to manhood. Similarly, Government treated the people of this country as children when it first took care of them. It is not that the people had really been in a helpless condition before that time, but they became helpless in the presence of the conflict of the Western civilization with the old civilization of India, which was brought about by the introduction of British rule into this country. The British Government then took them up by the hand and treated them with kindness. Laws were enacted for their benefit, and they were given small rights and powers. It is not a matter of small glory to the English that gratitude and liberality on their part were thus able to hold in check to some extent their selfishness. But selfishness did not altogether disappear from their hearts. Nay, in the course of time, as old and experienced Indian officials began to disappear, gratitude and liberality also began to disappear, giving place to selfishness, which now began to grow stronger and stronger. The natives have now received English education and have learnt their rights. They now find that they are kept out of many rights which lawfully belong to them, and that Europeans always oppose any proposal to extend their rights and powers. They are no longer content with the favours which are shown to pet animals or to children, and demand rights. This it is that has made the "Bengali Baboo" an eye-sore to Anglo-Indians. Then, again, the number of Europeans in India, as well as that of educated natives, have of late considerably increased. Any increase of the power of natives injuriously affects the interests of Anglo-Indians. This accounts for the present hostility of Anglo-Indians to natives. Anglo-Indian officials can no longer be regarded as occupying the position of parents to the people of this country. Among the Anglo-Indian civilians there are no longer found the "má-báp" of natives. Government, which is composed of civilians, is not therefore now a "má-báp" Government; nor is it desirable that it should be so, inasmuch as the people have now made considerable advance in political education, and desire to obtain increased political powers. It will not do any longer to depend on the favour and generosity of the rulers. Persistent agitation is all that is required. Considering that the English have had to agitate, and are still agitating in their own country, for the acquisition of new rights, it is idle to expect that they will in India confer new rights upon the people without their agitating for them. The advice, therefore, which certain wiseacres in this country are giving is opposed to the teachings of history and human nature alike. The people of India are not so lucky that they can expect soon to have another Viceroy like Lord Ripon. Even if they get one like him, it is not probable that that Viceroy will care to quarrel with the worthies of the Civil Service at every turn in the work of administration. Natives have now become an eye-sore to civilians. The interests of the one party clash with those of the other. Hence the opposition of the civilian body to the Ilbert Bill, the Local Self-Government Bill, and the proposed national fund. The Editor concludes by exhorting the people to have recourse to persistent and constitutional agitation.

46. The same paper makes the following observations regarding the Lord Ripon's policy supported in meeting that was recently held in England to support Lord Ripon's policy:—The meeting further expressed its opinion that the time had come when Local Self-Government should be introduced into India, and that it was desirable that the people of India should be given an increased share in the work of administration. It will really cause gratification to learn that the English public realize as vividly as the meeting in question that Lord Ripon's

NAVAVISHAKAR,
August 20th, 1883

administrative policy is one that will not only benefit natives, but will also promote the stability of British rule in this country. Everybody will admit that Lord Northbrook, Sir George Campbell, Sir David Wedderburn, Sir Arthur Hobhouse, and others like them are more competent than Arbuthnots and Bucklands to judge of the suitability or otherwise of any given line of policy to the requirements of the Indian administration. Considering that such eminent men are supporting his policy, Lord Ripon may fearlessly proceed to give effect to it. The supporters of his policy in England are more numerous than its opponents. The latter are gradually losing ground. Will Lord Ripon's supporters be vanquished in this war of agitation because they cannot make a parade of words, resort to tortuous reasoning, or have not learnt to hold their position by having recourse to misrepresentation? Never. Respect for, and confidence in, truth, honesty, and liberality have not yet departed from England, as they have departed from Anglo-India.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
August 20th, 1888.

47. The same paper makes the following observations on the reply given by the Secretary of State to the Anglo-Indian deputation:—The Anglo-Indian agitators have been served aright: they are now crestfallen. We are exceedingly pleased to read the impartial and vigorous reply given by Lord Kimberley. We have now to ask Arbuthnots and Seton-Karrs a few questions. If a 15-anna portion of the population of this country have not even heard of the Ilbert Bill, how is it that mehters and khansamahs should have grown, as it is alleged, impudent in consequence of this Bill? Is it not amusing to hear these conflicting statements made in the same breath? We admit that many uneducated persons in this country do not know anything about the Bill; but how do Europeans know that these people will not be satisfied or benefited by an increase of the power and prestige of their leaders? In what country, again, do illiterate people join any agitation with a full knowledge of its object? The decision of the question whether or not the Ilbert Bill should be passed does not rest upon the numerical strength or weakness of any agitation. What the Government is called upon to consider is—(1) whether or not the fundamental principle of the Bill is consonant to justice; and (2) whether or not it is desirable to give effect to that principle.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

48. The same paper remarks that the rainy season is the most unfavourable to people in villages. The malarious fever prevails at this time and shatters their health, whilst robberies become frequent. The people are apathetic. Government may do much if it but minds; but it is indifferent. The drainage of villages continues in as unsatisfactory a condition as ever, and the village chowkidars are notoriously inefficient.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

49. The same paper remarks that Messrs. Watson and Company continue to oppress the ryots of Marichadaha, although that *chur* has now passed under the direct management of Government. The Editor proceeds to give the substance of an affidavit made by one of the ryots in the High Court. The case is *subjudice*.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

50. The same paper makes the following observations in an editorial paragraph:—Our readers may remember that the Anglo-Indian meeting at the Town Hall had resolved to attack the Government House. The chief of the meeting, Mr. Keswick, threatened the other day that, if the Ilbert Bill became law, Government would have to encounter thousands of difficulties. Whether or not this shows a seditious spirit in Anglo-Indians is a matter for consideration. Mr. Knight, again, praises the moderation of the Anglo-Indian Defence Association!

51. The *Som Prakash*, of the 20th August, remarks that the public should consider whether the costly reception that is accorded to the Lieutenant-Governor wherever he goes produces any adequate results. The Editor refers to His Honour's visit to Santipore, and asks what particular acts did he do when he was there? He inspected a school, remained in the school for two or four minutes, and asked some boys one or two questions. What was gained by all this? The excitement of the boys was but short-lived. More would have been gained if His Honour had during the short time he was in the school, decided any important questions connected with the institution, after consulting the school reports. As it was, His Honour's inspection did not produce any results more important than those which follow from the inspection made by educational officers. The only results of His Honour's visit seem to have been that there have been some wasteful expenditure and some *tamashas*. Nothing has been done which could perpetuate the memory of the Lieutenant-Governor's visit to Santipore. If he had made any arrangements for promoting the study of Sanskrit in Santipore, or introducing the Local Self-Government scheme in that place, or if he had proposed the inauguration of some work of public utility, his memory would have been perpetuated. As it is, will wise and reflecting people attach much importance to his visit, or will His Honour himself recall it to his mind with pleasure? The inhabitants of Santipore have not yet learnt to expend their money on worthy objects. The money that they spent on this occasion might have been spent to better purpose. A correspondent also writes on this subject condemning the costly receptions that are accorded to rulers by poor people in this country.

SOM PRAKASH,
August 20th, 1883.

52. The same paper also makes the following observations:—It is a feature of the times that the more highhanded a man becomes, the greater is his prosperity. Hence the saying that good men do not thrive in this world. Reader! See, as soon as the Lieutenant-Governor expressed his regret and displeasure at the action of Mr. Lewis, the Commissioner of Chittagong, in lately treating Asruf Bibi with injustice and cruelty, the pay of that officer was increased from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 2,916-10-8 a month as the reward of ability. Besides this he will receive a monthly allowance of Rs. 250. Was not a similar procedure adopted in Mr. Kirkwood's case? The question now is, do judicial officers commit high-handedness of their own motion, or in consequence of the encouragement which they receive at the hands of Lieutenant-Governors?

SOM PRAKASH.

53. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 18th August, complains that pilgrim ships bound for Mecca are obliged to perform quarantine at Camaran.

URDU GUIDE,
August 18th, 1883.

54. The *Sar Sudhanidhi*, of the 13th August, remarks that it is not desirable that the High Court should possess summary jurisdiction in contempt cases, inasmuch as this will jeopardise the liberty of the press. The jurisdiction should therefore either be revoked, or the Privy Council should be given powers to interfere with the decisions of the High Court in contempt cases.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
August 13th, 1883.

55. The *Uchit Baktá*, of the 18th August, condemns the present system of tours made by Governors, on the ground that, owing to the previous intimation which is given thereof, the rulers are not able to see the true condition of the people. The Editor regrets to hear that the rate-payers of different

UCHIT BAKTA,
August 18th, 1883.

municipalities visited by the Lieutenant-Governor have been made to pay subscriptions in aid of the expenditure incurred in illuminations. Wherever the Lieutenant-Governor goes, everything is made to wear a bright appearance, and there are festivities and illuminations. The effect of all this is that he comes away with an impression that the people are in a prosperous condition.

SAMBAD BANIK,
August 9th, 1883.

56. The *Sambád Báhiká*, of the 9th August, writes the following:—

The Bengal Tenancy Bill.

The three Collectors of Orissa met together in the house of our Commissioner, the object being to discuss the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill. We know not what the outcome of their deliberations was. In time these will be made known. Now the fortune of the ryots is trembling in the balance. The zemindars are fighting for their own interests: in many stations they have formed themselves into constitutional committees; and, finally, all of them are in consultation with one another. The reverse is the case with the ryots, who are mostly without food and without intelligence. Their only hope lies in the justice of the British Government. Should Government commit any mistake in deciding this great question of the day, which is greatly agitating the public mind, the ryots, as a class, will run the risk of partial extermination. The juncture of affairs is very critical. We therefore advise Government to proceed carefully.

UTKAL DIPIKÁ,
August 11th, 1883.

57. The *Utkal Dípiká*, of the 11th August, makes the following

Sentence in a case of robbery.

observations:—The case of Hajee, merchant, was decided last Saturday. Altogether ten men

had been committed to the Sessions—six for dacoity, one for abetting the crime, and three for concealing things obtained by dacoity, the assessors found seven guilty, and acquitted three; but the Judge acquitted only one of those that had been committed for dacoity, and found the rest guilty. Of the criminals, five charged with dacoity, and one with abetting the same, were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for life; while three, charged with keeping stolen property, were each sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for six years. The Barrister, Mr. Wilkinson, appeared for some of the defendants, and Baboo Madhu Sudun Das for the rest. The one who was acquitted was defended by the latter. The Judge took great pains in writing a long judgment, which went to prove the guilt of the defendants, and the view that the Judge has taken of the matter agrees with that of the public. There is, however, difference of opinion as to the degree of punishment meted out to the accused, for many of them were sentenced to imprisonment for life for their first offence. The Police Inspector, Baboo Shamsunder Dutt, has done a praiseworthy act in detecting the criminals. Of Rs. 9,000 taken away by the robbers, he has recovered Rs. 1,650 from them. From another place Rs. 570 have been recovered, and a fresh case has been instituted on that account. We would have been still more glad had all the property been recovered, just as all the criminals were punished.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 25th August 1883.

